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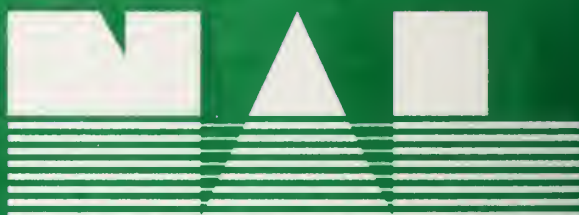
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ANNUAL REPORT

T A R K I N G W I N G

95-96

United States
Department of
Agriculture



National Agricultural Library

A Note About

TAKING WING

Taking Wing is the USDA Forest Service program dedicated to the management of waterfowl and wetland wildlife habitat. Its primary goal is to protect, restore, maintain, and improve habitat on both the National Forests and National Grasslands.

Today the challenges facing wetland wildlife are numerous and complex. These challenges are being addressed by individuals, organizations, and private and public agencies under the auspices of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP).

Taking Wing defines the role of the Forest Service in accomplishing the goals of the NAWMP.



Executive Letter

F R O M P H I L J A N I K

It is an honor and a privilege for the Alaska Region to "lead" the TAKING WING program. We take great pride in the program and are extremely grateful to ALL the Forest Service employees and partners who make it such a success.

I am very impressed to see where the TAKING WING Program is today and 1996 was an especially rewarding year. Through appropriated funds matched 2:1 with partner dollars the TAKING WING program enhanced, improved and/or restored over 19,000 acres of habitat for waterfowl and wetland wildlife. This is the highest annual accomplishment in three years.

Last year was successful for TAKING WING in many capacities. In addition to habitat accomplishments, we released the Strategic Plan. This Plan provides specific program direction for 32 National Forests and Grasslands, as well as guidance for other Forests, to develop and implement a strong TAKING WING program. We received national recognition from Ducks Unlimited, Inc. for our contributions to the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. And we saw the biggest fall flight of waterfowl in decades, which speaks well of the health of our wetlands.

TAKING WING is a key component of our mission—Caring for the Land and Serving People. It takes talented and dedicated employees to bring this mission to life. The 1996 TAKING WING Report is dedicated to those Conservation Leaders throughout the Forest Service, other agencies and groups, and individuals in the private sector. On behalf of the Alaska Region and the TAKING WING program I want to thank you for your extra effort and tireless dedication. We are extremely grateful to ALL the Forest Service employees and partners who make TAKING WING a rich, productive program. Together, we are making a difference.

Taking Wing is a key component of our mission—Caring for the Land and Serving People. It takes talented and dedicated employees to bring this mission to life. The 1996 Taking Wing Report is dedicated to those Conservation Leaders throughout the Forest Service, other agencies and groups, and individuals in the private sector.

*Phil Janik
Regional Forester, Alaska Region*

National Highlights

T A K I N G W I N G

A Strategy

Chief Jack Ward Thomas released the TAKING WING Strategic Plan to the Forest Service and partners in May. The Plan is a five-year national strategy directing Forest Service partnership efforts in wetland wildlife, specifically in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. At that time the Chief issued this challenge to the Forest Service:

"TAKING WING is an outstanding example of Conservation Leadership through partnerships between citizens and government, it's just what it takes to get the job done. We want to manage for healthy, diverse and productive wetland ecosystems - providing first class waterfowl and wetland wildlife habitat, plus outstanding recreational opportunities. This Strategic Plan focuses our efforts and sets a course of actions for the next five years. I challenge you to make this plan a reality."

Ducks Unlimited Honors TAKING WING During NAWMP Celebration

The U.S. Department of Agriculture was the guest of honor at a 10th anniversary celebration of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. Ducks Unlimited, Inc. hosted this celebration at the National Press Club in Washington D.C. It recognized public agencies and private organizations for their support of wetland and waterfowl conservation on private agricultural lands, National Forests and National Grasslands.

Ducks Unlimited President, Gene Henry presented an award to Secretary of Agriculture, Dan Glickman, commending the Department for its endorsement of NAWMP and the Forest Service for initiating the TAKING WING program.

TAKING WING was singled out for its valuable partnership in the 10 year history of NAWMP and its key role in creating critical habitat for migrating waterfowl on public lands.



(Left to Right) Paul Johnson, NCRS Chief; Richard Rominger, USDA Deputy Secretary; Dave Unger, Forest Service Associate Chief; and Gene Henry, Ducks Unlimited President

TAKING WING Awards

Each year TAKING WING recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of select Forest Service projects that promote partnerships in the management of wetland ecosystems for waterfowl and wetland wildlife. The award categories are: Habitat, Investigations, Public Awareness, Leadership, and Partnerships. A panel of non-Forest Service judges evaluates the projects and recommends the nominees.

The presentation of the 1995 awards was in conjunction with the 61st North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Tulsa, OK.

Public Awareness

The Moose Flats Waterfowl Habitat Area -
Chugach National Forest,
Glacier Ranger District
Partner: Ducks Unlimited

Partnership

DeChambeau Ponds - Inyo National Forest,
Lee Vining Ranger Station
Partners: Ducks Unlimited, California
Department of Fish and Game, Mono
Lake Committee, and Lee Vining,
California Chamber of Commerce.

Investigations

Vegetation Study and
Thematic Mapping -
Chugach National Forest,
Cordova Ranger District
Partners: Ducks Unlimited, University of
Alaska, and Alaska Heritage Program.



Forest Service

Public Awareness

(Back Row, Left to Right) Rod O'Connor, Melissa Merrifield, Vic Baer, and Mike Pease (Front Row) Dave Hackett, Lee Gage and Ken Rice



Forest Service

Partnership

Martha Davis, Executive Director of the Mono Lake Committee at DeChambeau dedication ceremony.



Forest Service

Investigations

Forest Service and Ducks Unlimited preparing for vegetation study.

International Forestry

RESERVA THRIVES IN LATIN AMERICA



Forest Service

*RESERVA
students*

With the support of the International Forestry branch of the Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Ducks Unlimited, Inc. 89 students from 21 countries have completed RESERVA program to date. RESERVA (Reservas Ecologicas Servicios De Adiestramiento) is the first international hands-on training program for Latin America's public wildlife managers and researchers. Classes are based at the Ducks Unlimited de Mexico facility in the Yucatan. The RESERVA curriculum exposes the resource managers to actual management scenarios including the ecological as well as the social perspectives. December 1995 marked the successful completion of the RESERVA Session 12.

State & Private Forestry

SPECIALIST PROVIDES KEY INFORMATION

Many of the conservation activities of State and Private Forestry center on improving the establishment, survival and growth of bottomland hardwood forests. Its work is key to wetland restoration in southern states, particularly on private lands. In 1995, a reforestation specialist was assigned to the program to work with all land managers. The specialist is Dr. Callie Schweitzer of the Southern Hardwood Laboratory in Stoneville, MS. She is a resource to managers in the forest industry, private sector, and state and federal agencies. Partners are: State and Private Forestry, Forest Service Research, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.



Forest Service

*Dr. Callie
Schweitzer,
Reforestation
Specialist*

Research

COPPER RIVER DELTA INSTITUTE

The largest contiguous wetland area remaining on the west coast of North America is the Copper River Delta. The Delta comprises 700,000 acres and with associated uplands, forms a management unit of two million acres. The mission of the Copper River Delta Institute is to serve people by improving the understanding, the use, and the management of the natural resources of the Copper River ecosystem.

In the Spring of 1995 and 1996 the Institute conducted a radio-telemetry study of Western sandpipers. This species breeds principally in the subarctic zone of Western Alaska and winters from California to Peru and is the most numerous shorebird in the Pacific Flyway. During the 1970's there were an estimated 6.5 million Western sandpipers. By the late 1980's and early 1990's estimates fell to 1.3 million birds, a drop of almost 5 million in 20 years.

Recent research involved banding Western sandpipers at two Pacific coast sites and attaching radio transmitters to 139 birds at a Canadian station. Flocks of shorebirds were monitored by hand-held or truck-mounted antennas, and airplanes. Documentation was gathered along the Pacific Flyway at five coastal migratory spring stopovers - San Francisco Bay, CA; Grays Harbor, WA; Fraser River Delta, BC; Stikine River Delta, AK; and the Copper River Delta, AK.

Goal

"Strengthen intra-agency coordination, regarding waterfowl and wetland wildlife habitat, between the National Forest System, and the Research, State and Private Forestry and International Forestry branches of the Forest Service."



Forest Service

Dr. Mary Anne Bishop, Copper River Delta Institute, prepares to monitor shorebird migration.

Joint Ventures & NAWMP

ACHIEVING NAWMP GOALS THROUGH JOINT VENTURES

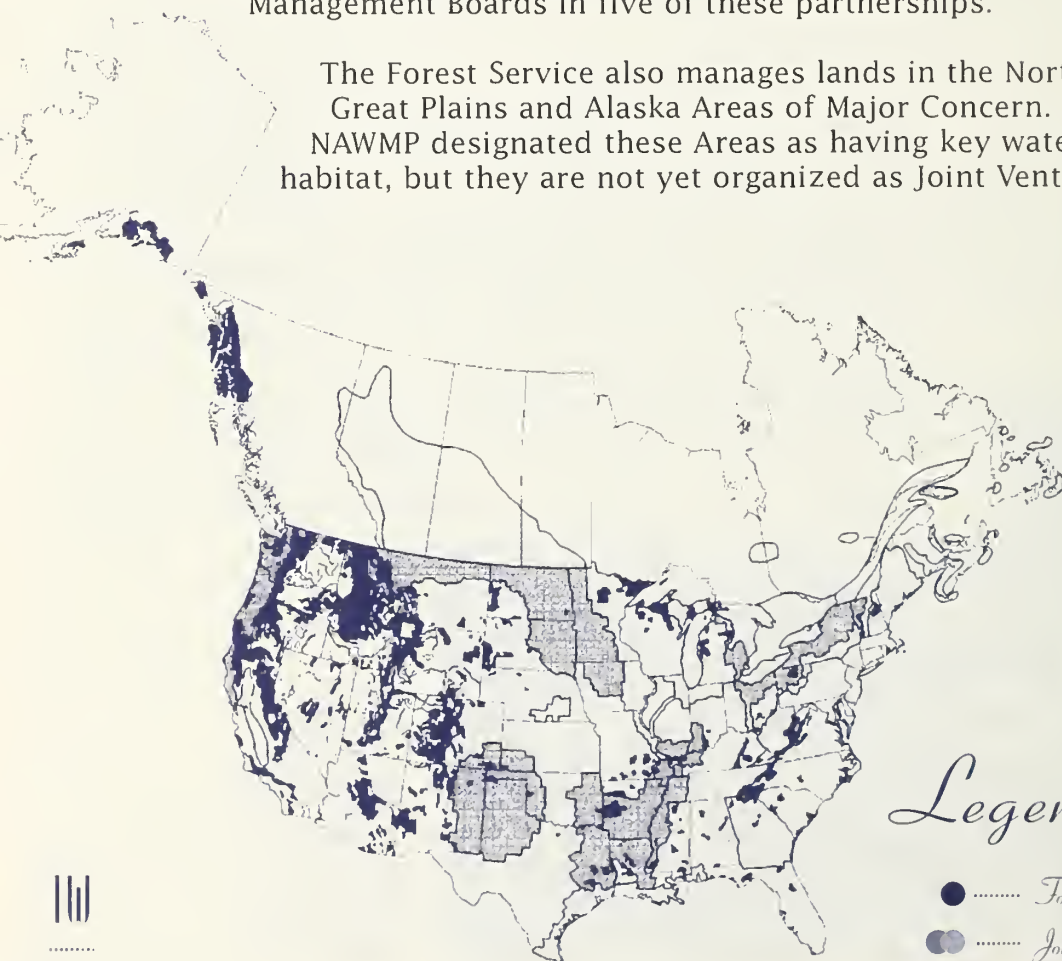
The North American Waterfowl Management Plan recognizes that the recovery and perpetuation of waterfowl populations depends on restoring wetlands and associated ecosystems throughout North America.

The goals of NAWMP are achieved by Joint Ventures. A Joint Venture is a team of private organizations, individuals, and government agencies working in the same geographic area to protect, restore, and manage wetland conservation programs. As of the 1994 NAWMP Revision, twelve habitat Joint Ventures and two species Joint Ventures had been organized.

The Forest Service is a partner in nine of the habitat Joint Ventures and serves on the Management Boards in five of these partnerships.

The Forest Service also manages lands in the Northern Great Plains and Alaska Areas of Major Concern. NAWMP designated these Areas as having key waterfowl habitat, but they are not yet organized as Joint Ventures.

*The following section
is a summary of the
1996 Taking Wing
achievements in each
Joint Venture and
Area of Major
Concern.*



Legend

- Forest Service Lands
- Joint Ventures

Lower Mississippi Valley

JOINT VENTURE

Flood Brings Community Spirit: Conservation And Cooperation



Great
Egret

When the waters of the Great Flood of '93 subsided there was a new conservation coalition in Southern Illinois - the Mississippi River Corridor Wetlands Project. It is the cooperative effort of the Forest Service, Shawnee Resource Conservation and Development Area, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the American Land Conservancy to enroll eligible cropland into the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP).

Originally, the land was bottomland hardwood forests, however, in the 1950's and 1960's, farmers cleared the land for agricultural use and constructed a levee to hold back the river. After the 1993 flood it was apparent that farmland at the southern end of the levee suffered the most damage. The conservation community realized this was an opportune time for landowners to convert the acreage to the WRP. Its goal - to restore three to five miles of land between the Shawnee National Forest and the Mississippi River.

Once their property was enrolled in WRP many of the landowners opted to relinquish ownership of the land. Forest Service staff from the Shawnee and the Milwaukee Regional Office began to work with the American Land Conservancy to acquire WRP lands. To date the Forest Service has assumed ownership for the public of over 3,000 acres of marginal farmland. These lands will be restored to seasonal and permanent wetlands through the WRP, but managed and maintained by the Shawnee.

A SIDENOTE

Following the catastrophic flood, the great egret, little blue heron, double-crested cormorant, black-crowned night heron, and snowy egret returned to the river bottom. It was the first time in decades for them to appear.

Wintering Waterfowl Find Lost Bayou Bottoms

Forest Service



Forest Supervisor, Danny Britt at the Lost Bayou Bottoms dedication.

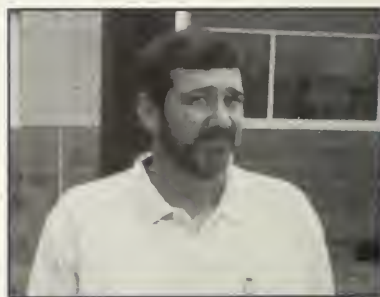
The Lost Bayou Bottoms Waterfowl Area, a 60-acre restored wetland within the Kisatchie National Forest, was dedicated in December. Bottomland hardwoods were prevalent here until 20 years ago when the site was converted to agriculture. The hardwoods disappeared so did wintering habitat for waterfowl, and migrating shorebirds, and year round habitat for wildlife. Now the hardwoods are returning to Lost Bayou Bottoms and so is the wildlife.

The Forest Service acquired the land three years ago through exchange. The agency partnered with Ducks Unlimited and the National Forest Foundation to restore the all-important wetland habitat. Ducks Unlimited's biologists and engineers designed the project, built the one-mile levee system, and installed two water control structures. Hardwoods were planted on 80 acres. The District's future plans for Lost Bayou Bottoms include a nature interpretation area and trails for the public.

Mississippi's Treasure: The Delta National Forest

The Delta National Forest is the largest remaining block of bottomland hardwoods in the Mississippi Alluvial Valley. Recent waterfowl improvement projects by the Forest Service and Ducks Unlimited will help preserve this rich resource.

On the 200 acre McCann Bayou a levee was repaired and new water control structures were installed. At Yellow Jacket Slough the partners replaced an earthen dam and a droplog water control structure. These projects will improve the seasonal flooding of the hardwoods. In the summer months the lower water levels will provide wood duck breeding habitat and protect the health of the nearby forests.



Forest Service

Delta National Forest District Ranger, Larry Moore

Intermountain West

J O I N T V E N T U R E

Securing The Future Of The Rocky Mountain Trumpeter Swans

The trumpeter swan, one of two swan species native to North America, faced extinction by the early 1900's because of over-harvest. Its large size and low-flying manner increased their vulnerability. Only a few groups of trumpeters survived in isolated habitats - Alaska and the tri-state region where Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming join. Since 1930 their numbers have increased but they face limited breeding, migration, and wintering ranges. Today, the primary risk to the Rocky Mountain population of the trumpeter swans is due to high winter mortality rate when they are forced to winter on inadequate habitat. Another concern is proper management of nesting habitat. The Forest Service is working with other agencies to document occupied nesting sites, maintain or restore productive nesting territories, and enhance those territories with low cygnet production. National Forests in the Northern and Rocky Mountain Regions are playing a role in key nesting habitat restoration.



Scott Nielsen

*Trumpeter
Swan*

The Information Highway On Wet Meadows

Managing Roads for Wet Meadow Ecosystem Recovery is a new Forest Service publication. It was written to support the changing philosophy in road construction - that water is an asset, not a liability. More importantly, it was written in order to provide guidance in protecting the wet meadows in the Southwest. Wet meadows decrease flooding, retain sediment, and recharge the groundwaters and provide wildlife habitat.

The responsibility of early highway engineers was to find the safest, shortest and least-expensive route. Often that meant a new road through or near a wet meadow. Protecting the environment was not a prevalent philosophy. Today that philosophy is changing.

One of the people responsible for the change is William D. Zeedyk, retired Forest Service biologist. Throughout his career, Zeedyk believed that roads could be built without sacrificing wetlands. In 1986, he began conducting field examinations and testing engineering

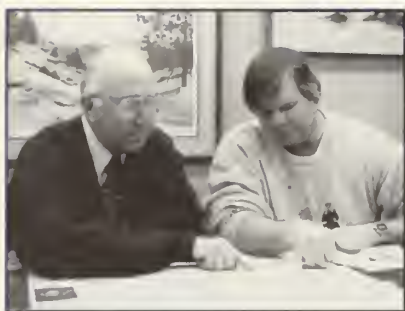
techniques. The tests and experiments proved successful. Following his retirement, Zeedyk worked in tandem with the Ducks Unlimited's Institute for Wetland and Waterfowl Research to write the document. Published by the Forest Service, Southwest Region, it illustrates the important relationship between ecosystem management and road management. It is a blueprint drawn from the past to change the future.



Forest Service

Bill Zeedyk

Colville National Forest Waterfowl Management



Forest Service

Ed Schultz and Jim McGowan review plans for the Colville National Forest.

The Colville National Forest does not strike the casual observer as a natural haven for ducks and geese. But that didn't stop Forest Supervisor Ed Schultz and Forest Biologist Jim McGowan. They saw Colville as an opportunity. They envisioned productive and diverse waterfowl habitat in its streams, lakes, ponds and river banks. Ed and Jim translated their vision into an action plan. The Colville is now listed as a "priority forest" in the TAKING WING strategic plan.

The Colville plan is extensive, and the projects are diverse in nature, covering all aspects of the forest. The plan includes: planting riparian and berry producing shrubs along shorelines; installing wildlife nest boxes to attract everything from swallows to mergansers; building floating and stationary waterfowl nesting structures; creating snags for woodpeckers that will eventually draw cavity nesters such as wood ducks; controlling noxious weeds, limiting shoreline livestock use with fencing; thinning and removing encroaching conifers; closing excess roads to reduce erosion and increase habitat security; stabilizing pond level by reconstructing dams; and the relocation of trapped beaver to vacant areas within the forest. Each of these projects contributes to the goals of TAKING WING.

The Colville staff is not stopping here. They are establishing a partnership with Ducks Unlimited to expand the scope of past habitat improvement projects. They also intend to acquire important riparian lands, and to conduct area-wide inventories of wetland resources that will assist in land management planning.

Atlantic Coast

J O I N T V E N T U R E

Greenwings Descend on Low Country

The Francis Marion National Forest hosted its third Ducks Unlimited Greenwing camp in 1996. Eighty five youngsters from around the area spent the day immersed in wetland conservation. "Young people are the conservation leaders of tomorrow, and we are their teachers," said Glen Stapleton, District Ranger. "Our goal is to educate them about the importance of wetland conservation and give them a chance to experience the beauty of the low country's national forests."



Forest Service

*Tommy Strange, South
Carolina Department
of Natural Resources*

During the camp, girls and boys also learned about duck banding, duck calling, and hunter safety. Sponsors of the event were the Forest Service, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, and the Eastern Coastal Chapter of Ducks Unlimited.

South Carolina Focus: Wetland Ecosystems

Outside of Charleston, South Carolina, two community river projects are thriving. Officially, known as the Santee River Focus Area and the Cooper River Focus Area, both task forces are composed of individual and corporate landowners, conservation organizations and governmental agencies. And, both groups are working to protect and enhance wetlands within the guidelines of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

Santee River Focus Area protects over 207,000 acres. The area is important because 36% of South Carolina waterfowl over-winter here. In addition, bald eagle, osprey, swallow-tailed kite, wading birds, and shorebirds call this area home. It is also home to one of the largest populations of the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker.

The goal in the Cooper River Focus Area is to protect 225,000 acres of wetland habitat and associated uplands. The area is of historical and archeological importance. The first state settlers colonized here. The rice industry thrived here, creating much of the existing wetland habitat. Today waterfowl, osprey, bald eagles, American alligators, and loggerhead sea turtles use this area.

Lower Great Lakes / St. Lawrence Basin

J O I N T V E N T U R E

Restoring Wetlands On The Sand Fork River

The Wayne National Forest now has more wetlands than it had before. Historically, Ohio has lost over 90% of its wetlands and on the Ironton Ranger District very few remained. Those statistics were incentive to convert old farm fields to shallow wetlands.

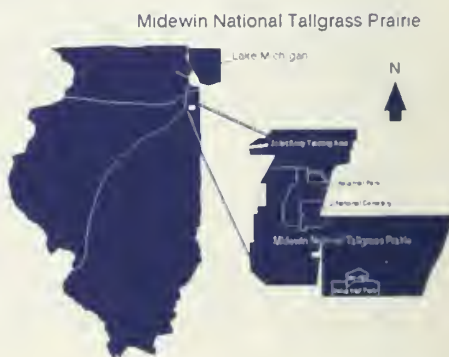
The Forest Service acquired fields bordering the Sand Fork River. After removing drainage pipes and filling ditches, they constructed a 4,200-foot levee. Three water control structures were installed and five small nesting islands built. The shallow wetlands should hold water from late fall to early summer, with smaller pools and extensive mud flats the rest of the year. Partners were: Ducks Unlimited and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Upper Mississippi / Great Lakes

J O I N T V E N T U R E

Forest Service Fulfills Community Plan

When the U.S. Army decided to dispose of Joliet Arsenal, 40 miles southwest of Chicago, a citizen planning commission undertook the task of its conversion. The commission envisioned a future that would provide both ecological and economical benefits for the people of this region. This vision will become a reality.



Effective this winter the Army began transfer of 19,063 acres to Forest Service. The area now known as the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie creates the largest prairie grassland landscape east of the Mississippi River. The Forest Service and Illinois Department of Natural Resources will work in partnership with not-for-profit organizations to manage the significant habitat and wetland resources.

Playa Lakes

J O I N T V E N T U R E

Monitoring Shorebirds On National Grasslands



Robert J. Long

Migrating waterfowl and shorebirds flying through the Southern High Plains seek out the playas — shallow basins of seasonal water. The National Grasslands of the Playa Lakes Joint Venture administer over 40 known playas and represent the largest public land management agency in the region.



Avocet

Compared with ducks, the migration of shorebirds is rather inconspicuous due to their small size and often dispersed routes. But they did not escape the attention of Hart Schwarz, Forest Service biologist. For the past two years Hart monitored shorebird use of playas on the Kiowa and Rita Blanca National Grasslands. His documentation provides valuable information for use in Forest Plans and local projects. According to Hart, "When the playas are filled with water, the presence of shorebirds in April and May and then again in August and September is truly an awesome spectacle!"

Pacific Coast

J O I N T V E N T U R E

Restoring The Sandy River Delta

A major wetland restoration project is underway on the Sandy River Delta, in the Columbia George National Scenic Area. The restoration of 100 acres means the return of riparian forests and floodplain wetlands, which were cleared and drained over 100 years ago.

Ducks Unlimited is designing the project and creating a management plan. The first step will be to focus on restoring natural hydrology and vegetation to the wetlands. The next step is to reestablish riparian forests on part of the property. This conservation effort will boost the Delta's habitat values for waterfowl, migratory birds and wildlife.



Forest Service

Virginia Kelly, Planning Team Leader for the Columbia River Gorge Scenic Area and son Ben

Snowy Plover Focus Of Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area

The Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area (NRA) in the Siuslaw National Forest supports a diversity of habitat. It includes over 5,500 acres of assorted wetlands and 40 miles of beach. The NRA habitat draws both year-round and migrating waterfowl and shorebirds. Several special status species found here include — California brown pelicans, long-billed curlews, northern bald eagle and red-legged frogs.



John Hulmather

Nan Ruby and her dog at the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area.

The Oregon Dunes NRA is an active partner in the State Recovery Plan for the snowy plover. The plover management project encompasses protection measures, research and monitoring, and habitat restoration.

The Siuslaw Forest published an informational brochure and took the lead in addressing public concerns over critical habitat and plover management. Its staff and members of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Oregon Natural Heritage Program, and volunteers cooperatively survey and monitor plovers and nests on the Siuslaw National Forest.

Northern Great Plains

AREA OF MAJOR CONCERN

Two Wetlands Add To Wyoming's Thunderbasin National Grassland

East Iron Creek Reservoir and Frog Creek are two partnership success stories for the Forest Service and Ducks Unlimited. The East Iron Creek project a 35-acre wetland was created for wildlife use and to improve water quality. The site will receive water through creek runoff as well as from an artesian well.

The Frog Creek project is similar in nature. The Forest Service wanted to increase the amount of waterfowl habitat in the area. There are small brood ponds nearby but more water was a necessity. A new 30-foot dam created a 35-acre wetland and nesting island was also constructed. Mallard, widgeon, shoveler, and blue-winged teal will benefit from this conservation effort.

Alaska Region

A R E A O F M A J O R C O N C E R N

Return Of Shorebirds Herald Spring In Alaska

The Copper River Delta is a flurry of activity in early May. First, come the almost 14 million shorebirds to rest and feed during the spring migration. The Western sandpipers and dun-lins are followed by the influx of another two-legged species — bird watchers as part of an annual spring celebration - the Copper River Delta Shorebird Festival.

Seven years ago the Festival began with a workshop and a few people visiting the tidal mud-flats. Now the Festival reaches virtually every Cordovan, hundreds of community members and visitors come specifically to see the shore-birds. The area's economy is boosted by \$47,500. More important than the benefit to the local economy, is the increase in the community's understanding and acceptance of the value of wetlands and the Copper River Delta.



Forest Service

The Cordova Ranger District cites the Festival as one its most positive and rewarding educational activities.

Managing The Dusky Canada Goose

The Cordova District is extending a helping hand to nesting dusky Canada geese. It has created a successful plan to maintain alternative nesting sites that are more productive for the geese, and will begin a new study on the impact of ecological changes on the nesting sites.

The staff monitored 395 artificial nesting islands, analyzing their use by geese. The 1996 results indicated that 93 nesting attempts were made by dusky geese on the available islands and of those 56 (60%) were successful. From 1983 to 1994, geese nesting on the artificial islands had a combined average success rate of 59%. During this same time, geese nesting in natural habitat had a success rate of 22%.

Partners are: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, National Biological Service, Oregon Department of Fish and Game, Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Forest Plans are mandated by the Forest Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (RPA) and the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (NFMA) to provide foundation for the management of National Forests and National Grasslands.

Generally, Forest Plans are developed with public input and they are revised on a 10-15 year cycle. The objectives of Forest Plans are to:

- *Determine capability to supply goods and services in an environmentally sound manner.*
- *Determine the most cost-efficient method of supplying goods and services to maximize net public benefits in response to society's demands.*
- *Develop a fully integrated plan for management of the land and resources.*
- *Display short and long-term management intent to the public, Federal, State, and local governments, and industrial, and other users.*

The Forest Service is also directed to coordinate Forest Plans with the equivalent and related planning efforts of other Federal agencies, State and local governments and Indian tribes. This includes efforts such as the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

Partners and interested parties are encouraged to contact a Forest Service office to be involved in the Plan process.

Definitions

Amendment: The need to amend a Forest Plan may arise at any time. The responsible official must first determine if the proposed changes are significant or not. Significant changes are those that:

- Significantly alter the long-term relationship between levels of goods and services.
- Have an important effect on the entire Forest Plan.

Significant Amendments (SA) require the same approval process as Forest Plans.

Assessment: A process in which several Forests and/or Grasslands work together at a landscape level to prepare the analysis needed for Forest Plan development.

NOI - Notice of Intent: An official notice published in the Federal Register notifying the public of the intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

EIS: Consists of a full range of alternatives and documents the estimated effects of each alternative. It also contains a preferred alternative and must be made available in draft (DEIS) for public comment for at least 3 months. A final EIS (FEIS) is released with the Record of Decision (ROD).

ROD: Official document selecting the final EIS alternative.

The following National Forests and National Grasslands are designated by the Taking Wing Strategic Plan as Priority Forests. Selection was based on the location within NAWMP Joint Venture areas, stewardship responsibility for key wetland habitat, and ability to serve as leaders for the Taking Wing program.

Forest Land Management Revision Schedule

Lower Mississippi Valley

Delta National Forest

402 Hwy 61 N
Rolling Fork, MS 39159
Phone: 601-873-6256
NOI: 2nd Qtr FY97
DEIS: 1st Qtr FY98
FEIS: 1st Qtr FY99

Kisatchie National Forest

2500 Shreveport Hwy
Pineville, LA 71360
Phone: 318-473-7160
DEIS: 2nd Qtr FY97
FEIS: 1st Qtr FY98

Shawnee National Forest

901 S. Commercial Street
Harrisburg, IL 62946
Phone: 618-253-7114
SA: FY92

St. Francis National Forest

Route 4 Box 14A
Marianna, AR 72360
Phone: 501-295-5278
NOI: 2nd Qtr FY98
DEIS: 4th Qtr FY99
FEIS: 4th Qtr FY2000

Upper Mississippi River / Great Lakes Region

Chippewa National Forest

Rt. 3 Box 244
Cass Lake, MN 56633
Phone: 218-335-8600
NOI: FY97
DEIS: FY98
FEIS: FY99

Huron-Manistee National Forests

421 S. Mitchell Street
Cadillac, MI 49601
Phone: 616-775-2421
NOI: FY97
DEIS: FY98
FEIS: FY99

Superior National Forest

Box 338, Federal Bldg.
515 W. First Street
Duluth, MN 55802
Phone: 218-720-5324
NOI: FY97
DEIS: FY98
FEIS: FY99

Playa Lakes

Cimarron National Grassland

Box J
Elkhart, KS 67950
Phone: 316-697-4621

Comanche National Grassland

P.O. Box 127
Springfield, CO 81073
Phone: 719-523-6591
Cimarron and Comanche Planning in conjunction with the Pike and San Isabel National Forests.

Black Kettle National Grassland

Route 1, Box 55B
Cheyenne, OK 73628
Phone: 405-497-2143

Kiowa National Grassland & Rita Blanca National Grassland

16 North 2nd Street
Clayton, NM 88415
Phone: 505-374-9652
Black Kettle, Kiowa, and Rita Blanca Planning in conjunction with the Cibola National Forests.

Intermountain West

Apache National Forest

Federal Building, Box 640
Springerville, AZ 85938
Phone: 520-333-4301
SA: FY95

Ashley National Forest

355 North Vernal Ave
Vernal, UT 84078
Phone: 801-789-1181
NOI: 1st Qtr FY99

Bridger-Teton National Forests

340 North Cache,
Box 188
Jackson, WY 83001
Phone: 307-739-5500
ROD: 3/2/1990

Caribou National Forest

250 South 4th Avenue,
Suite 172
Pocatello, ID 83201
Phone: 208-236-7500
SA: To begin FY97

Cibola National Forest

2113 Osuna Road, NE
Suite A
Albuquerque, NM 87113
Phone: 505-761-4650
NOI: 2nd Qtr FY97
DEIS: 4th Qtr FY98
FEIS: 4th Qtr FY99

Coconino National Forest

2323 E Greenlaw Lane
Flagstaff, AZ 86004
Phone: 520-527-3600
SA: FY95

Colville National Forest

765 South Main
Colville, WA 99114
Phone: 509-684-7000
SA: FY96

Revision Schedule Continued

Gila National Forest
3005 E. Camino del
Bosque
Silver City, NM 88061
Phone: 505-388-8210
NOI: 1st Qtr FY97
DEIS: 1st Qtr FY98
FEIS: 1st Qtr FY99

Inyo National Forest
873 North Main Street
Bishop, CA 93514
Phone: 619-873-2400
SA: FY95

Klamath National
Forest
1312 Fairlane Road
Yreka, CA 96097
Phone: 916-842-6161
SA: FY95

Lassen National Forest
5 South Sacramento St.
Susanville, CA 96130
Phone: 916-257-2151
SA: FY95

Medicine Bow-Routt
National Forest
2468 Jackson Street
Laramie, WY 82070
Phone: 307-745-8971
NOI: 1st Qtr FY97
DEIS: 1st Qtr FY98
FEIS: 2nd Qtr FY99

Modoc National Forest
800 West 12th Street
Alturas, CA 96101
Phone: 916-233-5811
SA: FY95

Pike & San Isabel
National Forests
1920 Valley Drive
Pueblo, CO 81008
Phone: 719-545-8737
NOI: 2nd Qtr FY98
DEIS: 2nd Qtr FY99
FEIS: 2nd Qtr FY2000

Plumas National Forest
159 Lawrence Street,
Box 11500
Quincy, CA 95971
Phone: 916-283-2050
SA: FY95

Targhee National Forest
420 North Bridge Street
St. Anthony, ID 83445
Phone: 208-624-3151
FEIS: 3rd Qtr FY97

Tahoe National Forest
631 Coyote Street
P.O. Box 6003
Nevada City, CA 95959
Phone: 916-265-4531
SA: FY95

Wasatch-Cache
National Forests
8236 Federal Building
125 S.State Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84138
Phone: 801-524-5030
NOI: 2nd Qtr FY99

Winema National Forest
2819 Dahlia
Klamath Falls, OR 97601
Phone: 503-883-6714
SA: FY96



Ducks Unlimited

*Whooping
Crane*

Pacific Coast

Siuslaw National Forest
Box 1148
Corvallis, OR 97339
Phone: 503-750-7000
SA: FY95



Scott Nielson

The Cinnamon Teal

Northern Great Plains

All of the National Forests and National Grasslands in this area are part of the Northern Great Plains Assessment. The Forest Plan revision schedule for all of these units is:

NOI: 1st Qtr FY97
DEIS: FY98
FEIS: 2nd Qtr FY99

Custer National Forest
Box 2556
Billings, MT 59103
Phone: 406-657-6361

Little Missouri
National Grassland
Medora Unit
161 21st Street West
Dickinson, ND 58601
Phone: 701-225-5151

McKenzie Unit
HC02 Box 8
Watford City, ND 58854
Phone: 701-842-393

Prairie Potholes

Cedar River & Grand
River National
Grasslands
P.O. Box 390
Lemmon, SD 57638
Phone: 605-374-3592

Thunderbasin National
Grassland
809 South 9th Street
Douglas, WY 82633
Phone: 307-358-4690

Oglala National
Grassland
16524 Highway 385
Chadron, NE 69337
Phone: 308-432-4475

Buffalo Gap National
Grasslands
708 Main Street
P.O. Box 425
Wall, SD 57790
Phone: 605-279-2125

Black Hills National
Forest
R.R. 2, Box 200
Custer, SD 57730-9504
Phone: 605-673-2251

Fort Pierre National
Grasslands
124 South Euclid Ave.
P.O. Box 47
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605-224-5517

Sheyenne National
Grassland
P.O. Box 946
Lisbon, ND 58054
Phone: 701-683-5779
To be included in the
Northern Great Plains
Assessment and follow
the same revision
schedule as the Custer
National Forest.

Alaska Region

Chugach National
Forest
3301 C. Street,
Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99503
Phone: 907-271-2500
NOI: 2nd Qtr FY97
DEIS: 1st Qtr FY99
FEIS: 1st Qtr FY2000

Tongass National
Forest
FEIS: 2nd Qtr FY97

Chatham Area
204 Siginaka Way
Sitka, AK 99835
Phone: 907-747-6671

Ketchikan Area
648 Mission Street,
Federal Building
Ketchikan, AK 99901
Phone: 907-228-6202

Stikine Area
Box 309
Petersburg, AK 99833
Phone: 907-772-3841

Atlantic Coast

Croatan
National Forest
141 East Fisher Avenue
New Bern, NC 28560
Phone: 919-638-5628
Plan revision will be in
conjunction with the
Uwaharrie National
Forest.
NOI: 1st Qtr FY96
DEIS: 3rd Qtr FY97
FEIS: 1st Qtr FY98

Francis Marion National
Forest
P.O. Box 788
McCellanville, SC 29458
Phone: 803-887-3257
ROD: FY96



Forest Service

Dusky Canada Goose

Accomplishment Summary

Ten Years of Partnership in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, 1986-1996

National Forest (NF) · National Grassland (NG) · National Recreation Area (NRA)

Lower Mississippi Valley

	Protection (ac)	Enhancement (ac)	Nest Structures	Outreach Events
Delta National Forest (MS)	—	355	120	—
Homochitto NF (MS)	—	80	25	—
Kisatchie National Forest (LA)	3,940	49	279	3
Ouachita NF (OK, AR)	20	28	413	—
Ozark National Forest (AR)	—	100	65	—
NFs & NGs in Texas	—	85	411	1
Shawnee National Forest (IL)	—	700	—	—
Forest Service Expenditure	\$2,319,176	\$531,125	\$73,312	\$1,100

Atlantic Coast

	Protection (ac)	Enhancement (ac)	Nest Structures	Outreach Events
Francis Marion & Sumter NFs(SC)	675	764	888	21
Croatan NF (NC)	200	1,760	—	18
George Washington NF (VA, WV)	2	228	210	26
Jefferson National Forest (VA)	495	59	98	18
Chattahoochee-Oconee NFs (GA)	—	83	260	4
Monongahela National Forest (WV)	174	2	47	—
Forest Service Expenditures	\$2,999,487	\$172,182	\$30,088	\$77,750

Upper Mississippi River/Great Lakes

	Protection (ac)	Enhancement (ac)	Nest Structures	Outreach Events
Nicolet National Forest (WI)	—	920	—	—
Forest Service Expenditures	—	\$16,000	—	—

Pacific Coast

	Protection (ac)	Enhancement (ac)	Nest Structures	Outreach Events
Siuslaw National Forest (OR)	2,828	450	—	—
Mt. Hood National Forest (OR)	1,404	—	—	—
Columbia River NRA	1,380	—	—	—
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NFs (WA)	4,437	—	—	—
Gifford Pinchot National Forest (WA)	426	—	—	—
Olympic National Forest (WA)	1,650	—	—	—
Forest Service Expenditures	\$29,683,646	\$109,000	—	—

Alaska

	Protection (ac)	Enhancement (ac)	Nest Structures	Outreach Events
Tongass NF - Chatham Area	—	2	50	1
Tongass NF - Ketchikan Area	—	—	3	—
Chucagh NF	—	21	924	15
Forest Service Expenditures	—	\$38,500	\$559,700	\$315,400

Other

	Protection (ac)	Enhancement (ac)	Nest Structures	Outreach Events
NFs in Alabama	323	25	328	7
NFs in Florida	9,081	5	207	—
Lyndon B. Johnson NG (TX)	—	26	630	—
Cherokee NF (TN)	—	—	260	—
Ozark NF (AR)	—	44	15	—
Daniel Boone NF (KY)	—	348	1,408	22
Holly Springs NF (MS)	1,139	1,339	109	—
Bienville NF (MS)	—	—	67	1
Tombigbee NF (MS)	—	20	—	—
DeSota NF (MS)	—	—	52	—
Forest Service Expenditures	\$3,543,005	\$327,619	\$160,555	\$38,985

Source: International Tracking System(ITS), the official database of the NAWMP.
Note: Not all Forest Service units participate in ITS

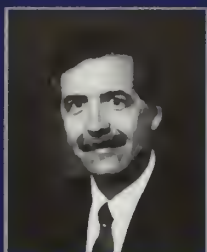


Forest Service Joint Venture Management Board Representatives



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Intermountain West
Dale Bosworth
Regional Forester
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801-625-5605



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Dave Wilson

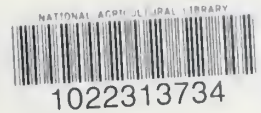
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Sumter National Forests
Columbia, SC
803-561-4000



Al Boss

*Upper Mississippi River/
Great Lakes Region*
Wildlife Program Manager
Eastern Region
Milwaukee, WI
414-297-1905





For additional information about
the TAKING WING program contact:

National TAKING WING Coordinator
Ducks Unlimited Inc.
One Waterfowl Way
Memphis, TN 38120
(901) 758-3722

or

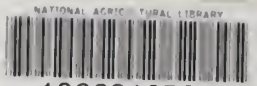
Regional Forester
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P.O. Box 21628
Juneau, AK 99802-1628
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